



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

April 8, 2005

FACT SHEET

SELECTED ICE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Major Initiatives

Financial and Trade Investigations

- ICE's financial and trade investigation initiatives target schemes that criminal organizations use to earn, move and store their illicit funding.
- In FY 2004, ICE's Office of Investigations conducted 7,670 financial investigations, resulting in the seizure of more than \$202 million, as well as more than 1,368 arrests and 895 indictments for money laundering and other financial crimes.
- Working with the private sector in a two-way information-sharing partnership, ICE has conducted more than 1,600 outreach presentations to more than 20,600 private sector representatives nationwide to share information on financial and trade investigations, including meetings with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Businesses.
- ICE also launched "The Cornerstone Report," a quarterly newsletter to share news on recent developments in financial and trade investigations.
- ICE has conducted 100 training sessions in anti-money laundering techniques for the benefit of more than 10,000 foreign and domestic law enforcement, judicial and private sector representatives.
- Anti-money laundering provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act have allowed ICE to more aggressively pursue money launderers and other criminals who pose a threat to U.S. financial and trade systems.

Arms & Strategic Technology (ASTI)

- Oversees programs designed to prevent terrorists and terrorist organizations, foreign entities, criminal organizations and unscrupulous parties from trafficking in Weapons of Mass Destruction and their components, or illegally obtaining and transferring critical technology and arms to restricted or prohibited persons, groups or nations.
- ICE agents conducted more than 2,500 investigations into the illegal export of U.S. arms and technology in FY 2004.
- Recent cases have brought a large number of prosecutions involving the illegal exportation of weapons technology to Iran, China and Pakistan.

- Through an industry outreach program called “Project Shield America,” ICE’s ASTI division is visiting U.S. manufacturers of arms and sensitive technology to educate them about export laws and to solicit their assistance in preventing illegal foreign acquisition of their products. Since late 2001, ICE agents have conducted more than 11,000 industry outreach visits, resulting in tips that have led to hundreds of ICE criminal investigations nationwide and worldwide.

Operation Predator

- Operation Predator is a comprehensive initiative designed to protect young people from alien smugglers, human traffickers, child pornographers and other predatory criminals.
- Under Operation Predator, ICE has arrested more than 5,400 child sex predators. More than 2,100 predators have been deported from the United States.
- ICE has made 13 arrests under the child sex tourism provisions of the Protect Act.
- Through its 54 international ICE Attaché Offices, ICE has provided leads to foreign authorities resulting in the arrest of 1,000 child pornographers overseas.
- ICE also certified 110 victims of human trafficking for T-visas in FY 2004.
- The USA PATRIOT Act has provided ICE with the necessary legal tools to effectively combat crimes committed online and electronically, providing ICE a new avenue through which to pursue predators and child pornographers.

Operation Community Shield

- Operation Community Shield was publicly launched in March 2005 to target members of the violent “Mara Salvatrucha,” or MS-13, street gang in six cities nationwide where the gang is most active – Los Angeles, New York, Miami, Baltimore, Washington, D.C. and Newark, N.J. Additional arrests have been made in San Francisco, Dallas and Boston.
- To date, ICE has arrested more than 135 MS-13 members nationwide under Operation Community Shield.

Compliance Enforcement (CEU)

- ICE Office of Investigations’ CEU applies real-time threat information to detect, disrupt and prevent potential terrorist activities.
- Additional leads are developed under the CEU’s screening of various U.S. databases related to immigration and national security, including the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), US-VISIT and the National Security Entry-Exit Registration System (NSEERS).
- Since the creation of CEU in June 2003, ICE has completed 5,571 investigations leading to 972 arrests.

Narcotics

- In FY 2004, ICE counter-drug investigations led to the extradition of the leader of Colombia’s Cali drug cartel and the arrest of several leaders of Colombia’s Norte Valle drug cartel. ICE agents were also involved with other agencies in the seizure of roughly 3.1 million pounds of illegal drugs in FY 2004, a 63 percent increase over the prior year.

Operation ICE Storm

- Under ICE Storm, an initiative launched in 2003 to target violent human smuggling organizations in Arizona, ICE has seized more than \$7.4 million and resulted in the prosecution of more than 340 defendants. Authorities in Arizona have credited ICE Storm with dramatic decreases in homicides and other violent crime.
- ICE Storm investigations have also led to the seizure of 288 weapons and the rescue of 655 migrants who were being held against their will.
- Nationwide, ICE agents arrested more than 1,630 human smugglers in FY 2004.
- Intelligence from ICE Storm led to the LAX initiative in Los Angeles to expand efforts to combat human smuggling. This initiative was a multi-agency enforcement effort to curb human smuggling activity at the Los Angeles International Airport; to interdict and arrest suspected smugglers; and to gather additional intelligence about smuggling methods.

Worksite Enforcement

- ICE prioritizes worksite enforcement efforts by focusing on investigations related to critical infrastructure and national security sites – such as airports, nuclear power facilities, defense contracting facilities and other sensitive sites -- and by targeting employers who engage in egregious criminal violations.
- Under “Operation Tarmac,” ICE has investigated employers and unauthorized workers with access to sensitive areas in the nation’s airports. Investigations at nearly 200 airports nationwide have resulted in the arrest of more than 1,100 unauthorized alien workers and 774 criminal indictments.
- Under “Operation Glow Worm,” ICE and the Department of Energy have completed screenings and investigations at 104 nuclear plants nationwide, auditing more than 64,800 employees.
- ICE also conducts regular investigations and enforcement efforts at defense facilities, shipyards, ports, and petroleum refineries and chemical facilities.
- In March 2005, ICE announced that Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., had agreed to pay a record \$11 million civil settlement to the federal government as a result of “Operation Rollback,” an investigation focusing on illegal aliens working for cleaning contractors employed at Wal-Mart stores.

No Safe Haven

- The No Safe Haven initiative seeks to deny refuge in the United States to international human rights violators by identifying, investigating, prosecuting and removing them from the country and by preventing violators from entering the country.
- No Safe Haven has made great strides at bringing human rights abusers to justice in the United States. In FY 2004, ICE arrested 41 such violators. To date in FY 2005, ICE has arrested 16 human rights violators, and 135 criminal investigations are pending.
- ICE’s Human Rights Legal Division (HRLD) has successfully completed more than 200 cases and is still litigating more than 900 cases.

Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)

- SEVIS is a Web-based program for managing information on the flow of international foreign students, exchange visitors and their dependents into and out of the United States.
- As of April 2005, nearly 753,000 non-immigrant foreign students and exchange visitors were registered under SEVIS to study in the United States. In addition, more than 115,000 of their dependents were registered with the SEVIS program.
- More than 8,800 colleges, universities, exchange programs and other institutions have registered for the program.
- Since August 2003, the Compliance Enforcement Unit, by analyzing SEVIS records, has placed more than 130,000 lookouts on students and exchange visitors who have potentially violated their immigration status. As a result of a rigorous vetting process, these lookouts led to approximately 3,700 credible leads, which were referred to ICE field offices for further investigation. These investigations have resulted in 681 arrests.
- SEVIS transitioned to 100 percent on-line registration in August 2003.
- SEVIS was one of only 15 government systems, out of 150, to be recognized by the E-Gov Institute's Government Solutions Center for best practices in improved operations.

Other Achievements By Division or Office

Detention and Removal Operations (DRO)

- DRO is responsible for public safety and national security by ensuring the departure of all removable aliens from the United States through the enforcement of the nation's immigration laws.
- In FY 2004, DRO removed approximately 160,200 aliens from the United States, an unprecedented total, up from the 145,400 aliens removed the prior year. More than half of the aliens removed in FY 2004 were criminals.
- DRO apprehended more than 7,200 fugitive aliens in FY 2004, a 112 percent increase over the prior year.
- More than 20,285 arrests have been made through the National Fugitive Operations Programs since ICE was established in March 2003.
- DRO rolled out an aggressive alternative to detention program called the Intensive Supervision Appearance Program (ISAP), a pilot program available in eight cities -- Baltimore, Philadelphia, Miami, St. Paul, Denver, Kansas City, San Francisco and Portland, Oregon.
- ICE continues to use electronic monitoring devices to ensure adequate detention space for criminal aliens who pose a threat to community safety or national security.

Office of Investigations (OI)

- As part of the Presidential election threat disruption effort, ICE agents completed more than 900 intelligence-based investigations, and made 237 arrests, between October and November 2004, targeting immigration status violators in the United States who posed potential national security risks or criminal threats.
- ICE investigations into illegally trafficked cultural antiquities and artifacts have led to the recovery of more than 1,000 artifacts and 39,500 manuscripts, including the "Treasure of

Nimrud,” a collection of more than 600 precious items dating back to the Assyrian civilization in 800 B.C., which ICE agents located in a vault under Iraqi Central Bank.

- ICE is the second-largest federal contributor to nation’s Joint Terrorism Task Forces (JTTF) with more than 300 ICE agents assigned to these task forces nationwide. ICE agents have been involved in more than 3,300 JTTF cases since ICE was created.

Federal Protective Service (FPS)

- FPS provides law enforcement and security services to more than 8,800 federal buildings nationwide that receive more than one million tenants and visitors daily.
- In FY 2004, FPS officers were responsible for 4,426 arrests -- a 58 percent increase over the previous fiscal year.
- FPS officers prevented nearly 550,00 prohibited items and weapons from being carried into federal facilities in FY 2004 - a 400 percent increase over the prior year.
- FPS officers responded in FY 2004 to 430 bomb threats and 877 calls about suspicious packages and other items.
- FPS has provided support to law enforcement operations at more than 3,000 venues, including the G8 summit in Georgia, the Super Bowl in Houston and World War II Memorial Dedication in Washington, D.C.
- In response to increased Homeland Security threat levels, FPS deployed additional personnel and resources to both the 2004 Republican and Democratic National Conventions to provide additional security and a strong law enforcement presence at federal buildings in the immediate area of the conventions.
- FPS has successfully implemented the Adam Alert in federal facilities. The first use was a case where a young girl was reported missing in a federal building. She was located and reunited with her parents within seven minutes of having gone missing.

Federal Air Marshals Service (FAMS)

- Responsible for protecting air security and promoting public confidence in our nation's civil aviation system through the deployment of FAMs in order to detect, deter and defeat hostile acts targeting U.S. air carriers, airports, passengers and crews.
- The FAMs logged millions of miles on tens of thousands of flights in FY 2004, ensuring public safety in the air since 9/11.
- The FAMS also conducted 13 emergency tabletop and aircraft hijacking exercises.
- The FAMS launched the force-multiplier program to track flights of armed federal law enforcement officers on U.S. carriers during their normal course of business.
- All FAMs recruited and deployed after 9/11 successfully completed advanced training.
- Provided commercial air security to seven national special security events in 2004 and Presidential foreign travel support missions.
- Opened Australia, Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama and Ireland to FAM missions and assisted the Netherlands, Singapore, Philippines, Korea and Japan in starting Air Marshal programs.

Office of International Affairs (OIA)

- Joint ICE/Mexican Customs training sessions have resulted in bulk cash seizures of approximately \$16.5 million from 37 separate seizures along with 37 arrests in three separate countries with the common thread being the money originated from Mexico.
- ICE Attachés have helped combat human smuggling activities in South America, Ecuador and Mexico, where a multi-agency fusion center has been established to coordinate significant human smuggling investigations.
- ICE Attachés have coordinated the investigation of alleged corruption of foreign officials in various countries resulting in seized and repatriated assets.
- ICE Attachés have effected significant Operation Predator arrests throughout the world and have been vital to the successful prosecution of the first offenders under the PROTECT Act.
- ICE Attachés have supported and initiated many significant Arms and Strategic Technology Investigations throughout the world, specifically in Europe and the Middle East, in support of DHS security initiatives.

Law Enforcement Support Center (LESC)

- The LESC provides timely information on immigration status for law enforcement at the federal, state and local levels. Police send electronic queries to the LESC through a national telecommunications system and generally receive a response within 10 minutes.
- In FY 2004, the LESC responded to more than 603,000 alien queries from federal, state and local authorities, a 12 percent increase over the prior year.
- The LESC placed more than 15,000 immigration detainers with police agencies nationwide.
- Law enforcement technicians at the LESC answered more than 22,800 calls on the toll-free ICE tipline in FY 2004.
- The LESC conducted more than 46,300 Brady Firearms checks on foreign nationals who apply to purchase a firearm in the United States in FY 2004.

Office of the Principal Legal Advisor (OPLA)

- In FY 2004, ICE attorneys litigated more than 300,660 removal cases in immigration court, as well as 48,707 appeals cases before the Board of Immigration Appeals.
- OPLA attorneys have also appeared in more than 30,000 bond hearings.

For a more ICE accomplishments, please visit www.ice.gov.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.